

**His Highness Shaikh Mohammed Bin Mubarak, Deputy Prime Minister of Bahrain Remarks
on Meeting with US Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton**

WASHINGTON, November 17 ~ The deputy prime minister of Bahrain, Shaikh Mohammed Bin Mubarak, met with United States Secretary of State Hilary Rodham Clinton today to discuss the strong bilateral relationship between the United States and Bahrain.

"I would like to thank Secretary Clinton for the frank and constructive conversation we had today," said Shaikh Mohammed. "First and foremost, we discussed the Free Trade Agreement which has been quite beneficial in terms of stimulating trade between our two countries. Since its inception in 2006, U.S exports to Bahrain, including machinery and vehicles, have increased more than 25 percent."

"I also want to thank Secretary Clinton for her positive statement on the elections that occurred in Bahrain just recently," continued Shaikh Mohammed.

"As an active partner in the gulf region, I reaffirmed Bahrain's commitment to the Palestinian peace process.

"It is always a pleasure to meet with and work with Secretary Clinton," concluded Shaikh Mohammed. "I look forward to seeing Secretary Clinton in the Kingdom when she visits the region next month."

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For further information contact:

Art Swift, Qorvis Communications

202-744-9045

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